

Humphrey D. Humphrey House  
HA 1921

Located on the southeast corner of Church and Chestnut Streets, this circa 1900 house is one of four similarly designed houses which sit on the uphill side of Chestnut Street. An impressive structure with moderate decoration, this house represents the transition between the Victorian era and the return to classical, neo-colonial lines of the early twentieth century. Built with a desire for light and ventilation, the many windows and porches were typical of the era. As with the majority of houses in the town, slate has a prominent place among the building materials of this structure in its use in the foundation and roof. The subdivided lots on the eastern, high side of Chestnut Street appear to have been prime real estate of the times as evidenced by the quality and stature of the houses along here.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HA 1921

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Humphrey D. Humphrey House

## 2. Location

street & number 1635 Chestnut Street N/A not for publication

city, town Cardiff    vicinity of    congressional district 5th

state Maryland county Harford

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Ernest E., Jr. and Marcia L. Wessel

street & number same telephone no.: (410)836-3025

city, town Cardiff state and zip code MD, 21024

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liberHDC 1066

street & number 20 W. Courtland Pl. folio 45

city, town Bel Air state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date    federal    state    county    local   

  pository for survey records

city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. HA 1921

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Located on the southeast corner of Church and Chestnut Streets, this large two-story frame house is one of four similar houses on the uphill side of Chestnut Street in Cardiff, Maryland. The main house is three bays by a deep two bays with a south two-story service ell and a modern one-story enclosure occupying the angle. The gable roof has a north-south ridge, with a projecting cross gable centered on the main, west facade. The main house had a portico at the main entrance and deep, one-story hip-roofed screened porch covering the at the south endwall. As typical of the houses of this major slate quarrying area, the roof is of slate shingles and foundation is of coursed slate. The exterior walls are covered by cream clapboard.

The entrance is located at the south bay of the first-story main facade, with windows in all other main facade upper and lower bays and at the gable. Windows are all of the 2/2 sash variety. The north endwall of the main house has a new external flue at the western-most bay and a single and a double window in the eastern upper and lower bays respectively. The south side has windows at the gable and upper east bay with a porch entrance in the lower bay.

The gable roof of the ell is perpendicular to the main house. Fenestration of the service ell is limited to a two-story three-paneled bay window located at the western-most edge of the south side. A modern one-story sunporch enclosure occupies the angle with six multi-light windows.

The house is an stylized with long first-story windows, peaked lintels, and lattice gable-finish. Square columns support the portico and porch roofs, the portico is unique to Cardiff. The screened porch is further detailed with curved fascia and six-panel screen. Working shutters remain at the windows.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. HA 1921

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This circa 1900 house is one of four similarly designed houses which sit on the uphill side of Chestnut Street. An impressive structure with moderate decoration, this house represents the transition between the Victorian era and the return to classical, neo-colonial lines of the early twentieth century. Built with a desire for light and ventilation, the many windows and porches were typical of the era. As with the majority of houses in the town, slate has a prominent place among the building materials of this structure in its use in the foundation and roof. The subdivided lots on the eastern, high side of Chestnut Street appear to have been prime real estate of the times as evidenced by the quality and stature of the houses along here.

The adjacent towns of Whiteford, Cardiff, and Delta (PA) developed primarily from the region's tremendous slate industry, which attracted workers and their families from the slate quarries of Wales. The three linear, connecting towns developed rapidly during the second half of the nineteenth century, resulting in the construction of Chestnut Street in 1890 and its subsequent development. The original owner of this house, Humphrey D. Humphrey, was kin to or was one of many Welsh quarrymen who immigrated to the region seeking further opportunities.

Originally owned by Thomas Hawkins (farmer) in a patented land grant known as "Hawkins Chance", this land was part of the tract sold by the Hawkins family to Rowland Parry, a Welsh quarry owner who operated one of the first prominent commercial quarries in the area. It was Parry who exhibited Peach Bottom slate in the London Crystal Palace exposition in 1850, winning it international recognition as the world's finest slate. "Hawkins Chance" was divided and sold in pieces. This piece apparently was 25 acres in size and contained a quarry which was owned at one time by the West Bangor Slate Mining Company. The parcel was platted and subdivided following the Equity Case of William H. Harlan v. Annie H. Whitaker in 1889.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA 1921

See additional sheets

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .413 acres

Quadrangle name Delta

Quadrangle scale 24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting				Northing				

B 

Zone	Easting				Northing				

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 57 on tax map 5, as provide on accompanying map

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
none			

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dianne Klair

organization Harford County Planning and Zoning date September 1995

street & number 220 S. Main Street telephone (410) 638-3103

city or town Bel Air state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

**HUMPHREY D. HUMPHREY HOUSE**  
**Title Search**

HDC 1066/45	June 20, 1978	Grantor: G. Kenneth and Marlyn B. Jones Grantee: Ernest E., Jr. and Marcia L. Wessel Granted: town parcel with improvements, 18,083.5 sq feet. Lots 12 and 13 on plat filed with Equity Case No. 3927 in WSF60/482.
GRG 641/204	February 4, 1964	Grantor: Martine L. Glackin Grantee: G. Kenneth and Marlyn B. Jones Granted: same, also described as fronting 100' on Chestnut St.
GRG 503/117	May 24, 1958	Grantor: William F. and Mildred Bostic(k) Grantee: Martin L. Glackin Granted: same
GRG 434/383	May 4, 1955	Grantor: Gertrude W. Bradley, widow Grantee: William F. and MMildred Bostick Granted: same
GCB 259/13	December 9, 1939	Grantor: Frank H. Jacobs, Jr., mortgagee for mortgage of Howard and Mary B. Proctor Grantee: A. Thomas and Gertrude W. Bradley Granted: same, for \$2450.00
JAR 169/101	March 22, 1920	Grantor: Jennie F. Humphrey, unmarried Grantee: Howard Proctor Granted: Same
Will Record JA 15/35	May 25, 1910	Humphrey D. Humphrey devises to daughter, Jennie F. Humphrey, the parcel and house.
WSF 80/5	February 24, 1894	Grantor: William H. Harlan, Trustee (from Equity Case WSF 60/475, William H. Harlan v. Annie H. (Whitaker) McConkey et al., January 1889) Grantee: Humphrey D. Humphrey Granted: 2 town lots for \$250.00
ALJ 50/343	May 28, 1884	Grantor: William H. Harlan et al. Grantee: Annie H. Whitaker Granted: 25 acres, of "Hawkins Chance"

ALJ 23/474	April 6, 1870	Grantor: David Swope et al. Grantee: Oliver Whitaker Granted: 25 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$12,000.00
WHD 15/362	September 14, 1864	Grantor: Alexander Garrett et al. Grantee: West Bangor Mining Company (Alexander Garrett, David Swope part of this company) Granted: same
WHD 15/361	September 14, 1864	Grantor: I. Holmes Grover Grantee: Alexander Garrett and David Swope Granted: same
WHD 15/261	May 31, 1864	Grantor: Rowland Parry Grantee: I. Holmes Grover Granted: same
HDG 36/212	January 22, 1850	Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins Grantee: Rowland Perry (Parry) Granted: part of "Hawkins Chance" for \$850.00, acreage unknown
HDG 34/492	February 9, 1849	Grantor: Edward Proctor et al. Grantee: Archibald A. Hawkins Granted: "Hawkins Chance", being part of Thomas Hawkins landholdings; 74 acres 5 perches
HD 14/336	August 3, 1831	Grantor: Isaac Hawkins, heir to Thomas Hawkins Grantee: Thomas Proctor, heir to Edward Proctor Granted: The eighth part of land tracts "Hawkins Chance", "Williams Birthright", Mount Pleasant", and "Montgomerys Delight". The four tracts contain 188 acres total. No mention of "eighth part" acreage.
Land Tract, Patented	After March 1774, when Harford est.	"Hawkins Chance", tract of 74 acres 5 perches granted to Thomas Hawkins. Located on the Maryland and Pennsylvania line at the north end of present day Cardiff. Divided, sold, and reworked often.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley,  
John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer. 1989.

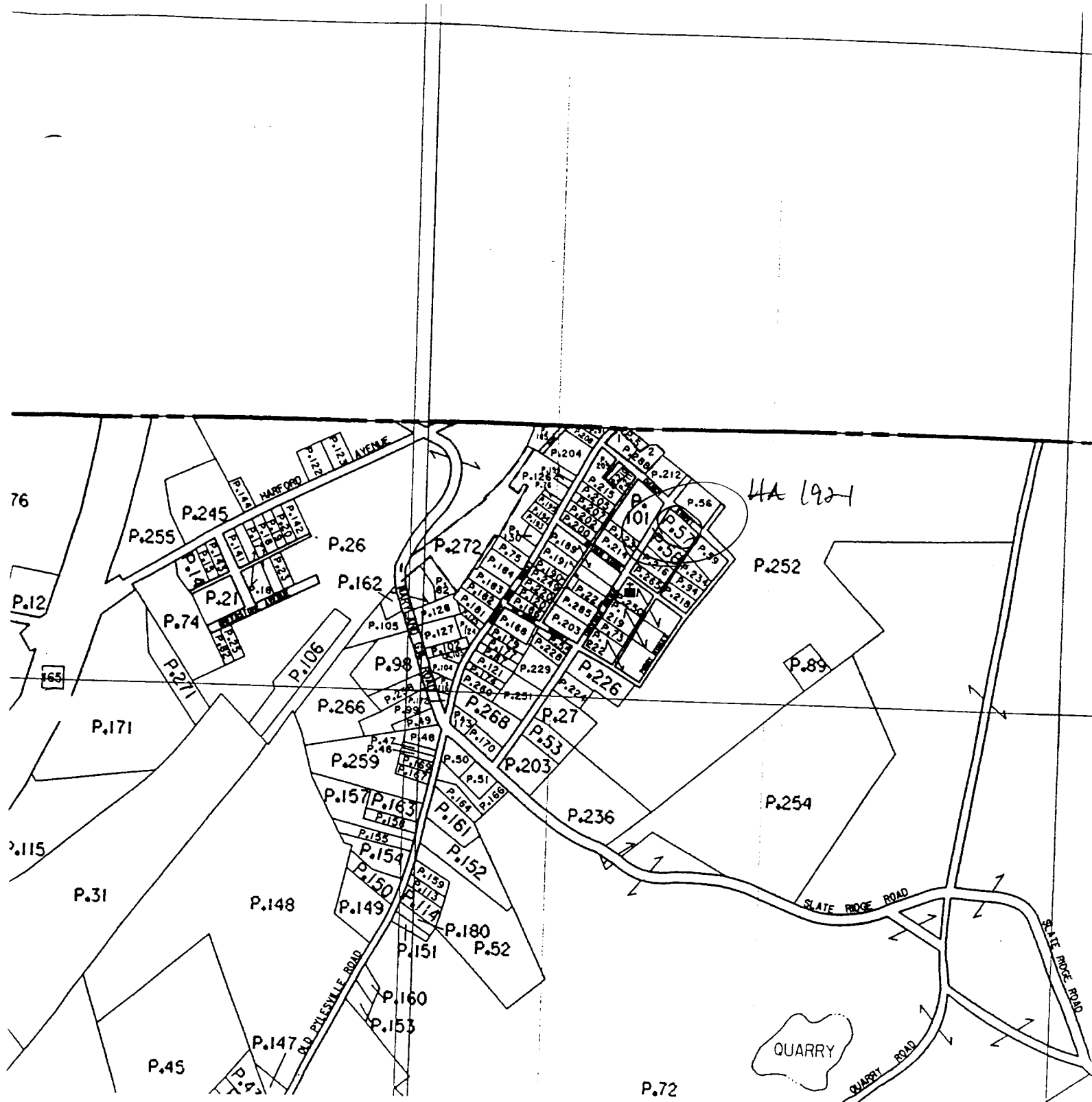
Land Records, Harford County Courthouse.

Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the  
Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

Conversations with Mrs. Marion Scaborough, June 20, June 22, July 25, and August 1, 1995  
regarding Parry family history.

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.



HA-1921

Humphrey D. Humphrey House  
Parcel 57, Tax Map 5



150 000 FEET  
(PA.)

P E A C H B O

PENNSYLVANIA  
Creek

4399

4398

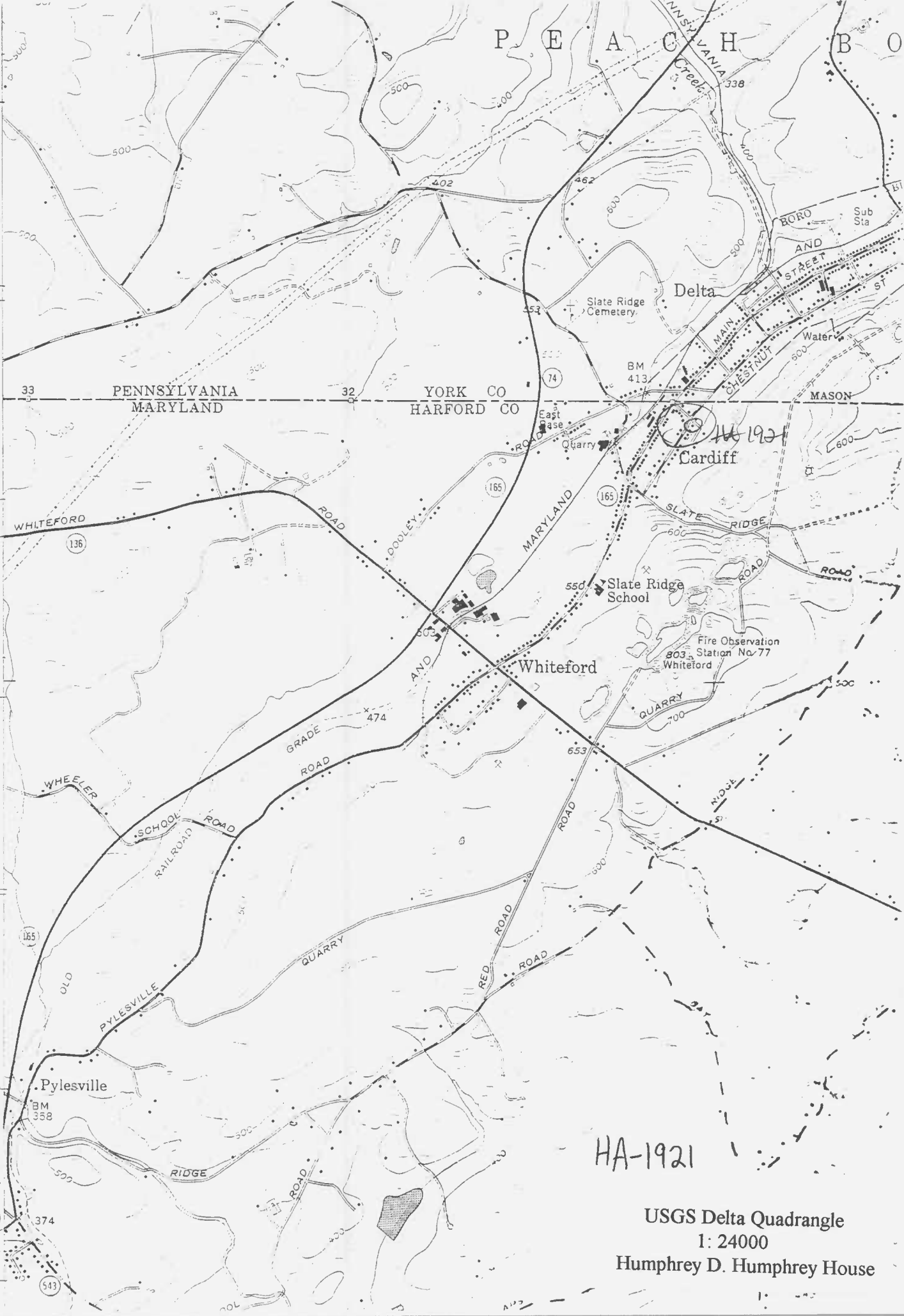
FIVE FORKS 3 MI.  
UNGLACIATION 0.6 MI.

42'30"

4396

4395

5763 III NW  
(FAWN GROVE)  
HILL 6.4 MI  
YNER 2.1 MI



HA-1921

USGS Delta Quadrangle  
1: 24000  
Humphrey D. Humphrey House



HA 1921

Thompson D Thompson House  
Hartford County, Maryland  
Dramatic House

3/45

Maryland SHIP

~~Chris Weber, Hartford County, Maryland 4 Town Dept~~  
View east from Chestnut Street

1/2



HA 1921

Humphrey D. Humphrey House  
Hampden County, Maryland  
Dianne Blair

3/95

Maryland SHPO

~~Chris Weeks, Hampden County, Dept. of Planning & Zoning~~  
View northeast from Chestnut Street

2/2